

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the present application. Favorable reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

1. Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because of informalities related to the status of the parent application. Applicant has amended the specification to update the status of the parent application by adding the patent number of the parent application. Thus, Applicant requests that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

2. Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1-14 and 20 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,368,540. In addition, claims 15-19 and 21 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,368,540.

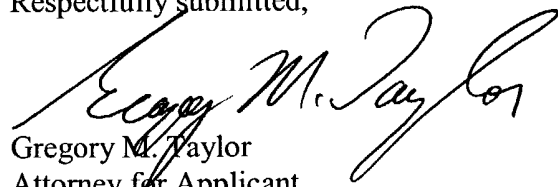
Applicant has submitted herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejections of claims 1-21 over U.S. Patent No. 6,368,540. Hence, Applicant requests that the double patenting rejections of the present claims be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present claims. In the event the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of this application that could be clarified by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 14th day of June 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory M. Taylor", written in a cursive style.

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